

CITY OF CHARLEVOIX
CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES
Friday, May 29, 2020 – 10:00 a.m.
Remote Participation via Zoom

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Mayor Kurtz.

1. Pledge of Allegiance

In order to be in compliance with Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-21 which prohibits in-person work not necessary to sustain or protect life, this Special Meeting was held remotely in accordance with Executive Order No. 2020-15 which grants temporary authorization of remote participation in public meetings due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

2. Roll Call

Mayor: Luther Kurtz
Members Present: Greg Bryan, Aaron Hagen, Janet Kalbfell, Tom Oleksy, Brian Slater
Members Absent: Shane Cole
City Manager: Mark L. Heydlauff
City Clerk: Joyce Golding

3. Inquiry Regarding Conflicts of Interest

Mayor Kurtz and Hagen stated they will recuse themselves from Item 4.B.

4. All Other Actions and Requests

A. Safety and Walkability Zone Modifications

Mayor Kurtz stated that after talking with several members of the public and also the downtown business owners, he felt an update to the Downtown Safety and Walkability Plan was appropriate. Council discussed the proposed plan and offered their opinions. The proposed changes are detailed below.

- Starting Friday, May 29, the parking spaces adjacent to any outdoor dining, and one space on either end of the dining, will be reserved for pedestrians seven days a week.
- The rest of the Downtown Safety and Walkability Plan will be placed on hold until June 19. The City Manager will re-implement the rest of the plan that was approved at the previous council meeting.
- During the time the plan is on hold, the City will work on:
 - Potential for merchants to sell items in a limited space as an addition to the Downtown Safety and Walkability Plan.
 - Making the cones look more inviting and less like construction, if possible.
 - Signage to let pedestrians know what the space is reserved for (we have ten sandwich boards set aside for this).
 - A way to keep the cones from setting along the sidewalk when they are not set out for parking. This has confused people regarding parking this week.
- Council retains the option to amend the plan in the future.
- Advance messaging will take place prior to June 19.

Mayor Kurtz opened the item to public comment:

- Maureen Owens, DDA Chair, was in favor of the plan
- Kay Heise was in favor of the plan
- Jodi Bergman felt safety was paramount
- Sarah Knapp questioned how tourists will be informed
- Darsi Lee was in favor of setting a firm date for the plan
- Darlene Klein felt business owners should be in the stakeholders group

Motion by Kalbfell, second by Hagen to [implement the proposed changes to the Downtown Safety and Walkability Plan as discussed above].

Yeas: Kalbfell, Bryan, Hagen
Nays: Slater, Oleksy
Absent: Cole

B. Curbside Takeout/Shopping Spots

Mayor Kurtz and Hagen recused themselves. As senior member, Kalbfell facilitated the discussion regarding reserved parking for curbside pickup.

Kalbfell opened the item to public comment:

- Darsi Lee was not in favor of pick up spots for retail
- Jodi Bingham felt the spaces could be better utilized
- Maureen Owens stated that the DDA was in favor of spots for restaurants, but not retail

Council directed the City Manager to work with all businesses on the curbside options appropriate for them on a case-by-case basis.

5. Reports & Communications

- A. Public Comments
 - Darsi Lee questioned the status of sidewalk merchandise sales.
- B. City Manager Comments
- C. Mayor & Council Comments
 - Council thanked everyone for participating in the meeting.

6. Other Council Business

- 7. Adjourn**
Mayor Kurtz adjourned the meeting at 11:06 a.m.

Joyce M. Golding

City Clerk

Luther Kurtz

Mayor